



What's News in the Woods...

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Elementary Magnet School

October 2017 Newsletter

<http://fwes.wcpss.net> for any info updates

From Mrs. Pierce...

#fwesinspireslearning

We are well into the swing of the 17-18 school year and learning for our students is being inspired around every corner! Students are becoming more engaged through the use of 21st Century skills of collaboration, communication, creativity and critical thinking throughout their learning. As an IB/PYP school our focus is on not only teaching content but making sure our students enjoy learning in order to be life-long learners. Please check out our # on twitter to see all of the awesome learning experiences happening throughout our building each day!

We are very proud of our school's work last year to make sure students at all achievement levels made growth. As we reviewed our year end EOG data we also saw

a continued increase in student basic proficiency as well as with those students showing they are College and Career Ready. Please continue to partner with us so that all students grow strong with content but also as IB Learners so they are ready for a global future!

We were also honored to have been chosen by the International Baccalaureate Organisation to be one of only 3 schools in the world (Thailand, Qatar and NC!) to be part of video footage that will support new curriculum enhancements being shared across the globe in October 2018. The compliments our students and staff received during the visit from the IBO representative and the production crew were many.

They were amazed with our students and in awe of our teachers. At the end of the shoot they were actually worried that they had too much good footage! What a great problem to have and another compliment to the things that happen at FWES each day for students, families and teachers. Thank you for choosing to be part of our wonderful community to keep our focus on learning and growing.

Respectfully,
Winston
Pierce



Go for the Gold!

- Give and Earn Respect
- Own your Actions
- Lead by Example
- Demonstrate Cooperation



A Walk in the Woods ...

- **Fall School Pictures:** Get your smile and outfit ready! School pictures are scheduled for Monday, October 9th. Pre-order information is being sent home Oct. 2nd- extra forms in FWES office.
- **Here Comes the Bus!** Transportation releases new Here Comes the Bus App to help families see the location of their child's school bus on a smartphone, tablet, or personal computer. This is to help families know when the bus is near the assigned stop. For more information, including how to download and access the App click this link- [Here Comes the Bus App](#)
- **International Walk to School Day:** Friday, October 6, 2017 We will meet in the Kildare Plaza parking lot at 8:30 a.m. to start our walk to school. Please be ready to step off at 8:30 a.m. Kildare Plaza is the shopping center at the intersection of Kildare Farm Rd. and Farmington Woods Dr. (behind Starbucks).
- **Community Garden:** A small winter garden has been planted! A bed of kale and a bed of collard seedlings have been planted and should be ready for harvest in 45 days if all goes well.

Various classrooms are taking action and volunteering to water the seedlings daily. These power foods will be donated upon harvest to the Dorcan Ministry Food Pantry.

- **Recognize the Inspiring FWES Staff!** Please remember to use the link on our website for recognizing a staff member who has helped to ignite your child's learning this year!
- **Volunteer Re-Activation/Registration:** Please reactivate or register as a volunteer in the FWES Front Office by Monday, October 30th. Current volunteers can reactivate easily prior to 10/31- after 10/31 previous volunteers will have to complete the entire process and wait 2-3 weeks on results.
- **First Grade:** The first graders have just completed their inquiry into how citizens influence their community for our Who We Are unit. They are able to identify the need for rules, how they follow rules at home, school, and in their community. They learned about authority figures and how they influence others. As a final project, students collaborated to make posters, skits, songs and poems about how to solve conflict in peaceful ways. Now they know they are able to influence others to solve some of the little prob-

October, 2017

Calendar Items to Note...

- Oct 6- 8:30am FWES International Walk to School Day- Kildaire Plaza!
- Oct. 9, 10, 13- 3rd Grade CogAt Testing 9:30-10:30am
- Oct 9- Fall Pictures- Smile! Boxtops collection begins
- Oct 10- Election in Café- no lunch visitors; Before/After School Relocated
- Oct 16 2:00 Magnet Info and Tour
- Oct 17 6:00pm Read to Achieve Session for 3rd Grade Parents
- Oct 18- 2nd Grade to IMAX; K to Gan-yard Farm
- Oct 19- 1st Grade to Rock Quarry (Long, Byrd, Morrisette and Viola)
- **Oct 20- Early Release at 1:15pm**
- Oct 23- Fun Run Pep Rally- PM
- Oct 26- 1st to Rock Quarry (Brown, Williams, Edwards); Read to Achieve Test for 4th graders
- Oct 27- K Letterland Parade; Last Day for Boxtops
- **Oct 30- Deadline for PTA Reflections Projects ; End of 1st Quarter**
- Oct 31- Teacher Workday- No School for Students; Parent-Teacher Conferences
- Nov 1- 5th to IMAX
- Nov 2- Global Fun Run Event!!!!; Parent-Teacher Conferences 4:30-7:00pm
- Nov 3- 8:30 Walk to School Day- Kildaire Plaza (Fun Run rain date)
- Nov 6 1st on Walking Trip; Q1 Report Cards Home; BAC District 9 Mtg 5:30pm Davis Drive Elementary'
- Nov 7- Election in FWES Café- no visitors for lunch; Before/After School programs relocated

lems that happen during the day. Way to take action, first graders!

• **Second Grade:** Second graders are enjoying our Who We Are unit about studying life cycles of animals and how parent animals might look similar or different to each other. We have taken outside discovery adventures to find evidence of animal life cycles on our school campus. The students show such enthusiasm once they discover that life cycles exist around us. So far classes have taken note of and observed the milkweed bug, honey bees, several monarch caterpillars, and 2 monarch chrysalis. We are looking forward to gaining more knowledge about butterflies as we observe our new caterpillar visitors from our science kits and take a field trip to the Marbles IMAX to watch *Flight of the Butterflies*.



FWES Student Services

Student Services at FWES provide support to students and families through our School Counselors and our School Social Worker. If you have questions or concerns about your child's transition to school this year; please don't hesitate to reach out to one of our student service staff: Jennifer Thakur and Kelly Wiener, counselors or Joette Basham, social worker.

Counselors: Every October, schools and organizations across the country participate in observing National Bullying Prevention Month. The goal: encourage communities to work together to stop bullying and cyberbullying by increasing awareness of the prevalence and impact of bullying on all children of all ages. At Farmington Woods, we work to create a community of support and encouragement through our PBIS program and in particular, our Bucket Filling initiative. Bucket filling is a school-wide program that encourages students and teachers to see the good in the behavior of others and to recognize it through compliments and positive actions. Please ask your child about bucket filling; and if you would like to begin this wonderful initiative at home...the book "Have You Filled A Bucket Today" by Carol McCloud is a great book to get you started!



Wednesday October 25, 2017 is Unity Day and a chance to show support and commitment to a bully free school. On October 25, 2017;

please wear **ORANGE** to show unity for kindness, acceptance and inclusion. www.pacer.org

Social Worker:

FWES POWER FOOD PANTRY is OPEN

The FWES Power Food Pantry is now open for our families to access food. A parent/guardian can come to the school to receive food on these days/times:

Tuesday - 8:45-10:00 am

Fridays - 8:45-10:00 am; 3:15-4:15 pm.

If your family is in need of food but cannot pick-up at these times, please contact our School Social Worker, Mrs. Basham, at 919-238-9445 (call/text) or cbasham@wcpss.net, to make other arrangements.

***Needed items for the pantry: Paper grocery bags

If you would like to volunteer to assist with this service for our families, we would welcome your assistance, please Contact Joette Basham if you'd like to assist with this school based outreach.

Jennifer Thakur, Counselor, jthakur@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26517

Kelly Wiener, Counselor (M, T & F), kwienner@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

Joette Basham, Social Worker (T & F), cbasham@wcpss.net
919-460-3469 ext. 26516

Notes From the Front Office Mrs. Farr, Mrs. Nagy and Mrs. Moore

- **Yellow Cards are Needed!** In order to insure the school has the most current contact information for each student, especially in the event of an emergency, please make sure you return your child's card immediately.
- **Sick Students:** NC Health Policy dictates the events that require students to be excluded (sent home) from school. If your child demonstrates one of these symptoms we are required to send them home. Please make appropriate arrangements if you receive such a phone call. Students must go home from school if the following symptoms are present:
 - **Temp of 100 or more** (cannot return until they are fever free for 24 hours without medication- if your child leaves during the day for a fever, he/she may not return the following day as it will not have been 24 hours without fever)
 - **Vomiting or Diarrhea** (cannot return to school until they have been free of either symptom for at least 12 hours)
 - **Severe headache**
 - **Red, watery eyes with yellow drainage**
 - **Undiagnosed or treated rash**

- **Inability to attend to learning activities**
- **Change in student's usual medical status**
- **Late Arrival or Early Check Out:** The instructional day begins in all classrooms at 9:15am and ends at 3:45pm. Each time a student arrives after 9:15am or is checked out prior to 3:45pm, he/she is missing valuable instructional time. A student who is checked out one day a week at 3:15pm misses a total of 2 hours of instruction that month. Please work to make sure your student is in his/her classroom from 9:15-3:45 every day to maximize his/her learning. Our data manager, counselor and social worker will be monitoring this data and contacting families to offer assistance.
- **Walk In Transportation Changes:** All transportation changes must be submitted in writing. Walk in last minute transportation changes will not be allowed repeatedly and should only be used in the event of an emergency circumstances. Changes due to appointments should be given to the teacher the morning of the appointment. To maintain appropriate safety, students will not be dismissed to parents from the car-pool area or from classrooms prior to the start of the After School Program at 4:15pm.

Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (919) 852-3303

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات الترجمة المجانية للتعرف على سير العمليات بالمدرسة، اتصل بالرقم (919) 852-3303

Si vous avez besoin de services de traduction gratuits pour comprendre les procédures scolaires, appelez le (919) 852-3303

यदि आपको विद्यालय की प्रक्रियाओं को समझने के लिए निःशुल्क अनुवाद सेवाएँ चाहिए, तो (919) 852-3303 पर कॉल करें

학교/교육 과정에 관한 무료 번역 서비스가 필요하시면 다음 번호로 연락하여 주십시오 (919)852-3303

Nếu quý vị cần sự thông dịch miễn phí để hiểu phương pháp trường học, xin vui lòng gọi số điện thoại, 919-852-3303

如果您需要免费翻译服务来了解学校流程，请致电 (919) 852-3303

Healthy Active Kids at FWES!

In order to build healthy brains and healthy bodies for our students, a collaborative group of parents, teachers and students is leading our Healthy Active -Kids initiatives for the 17-18 school year. Focus points this year include:



- Increasing healthy snacks eaten at school
- Reducing high sugar treats for birthday celebrations- please consider non-sweet alternatives
- Regular Physical Activity through Walk and Bike to School Days, Brain Breaks during the school day, 30 minutes of recess each day, Physical Fitness assessments and goals in PE

If you are interested in helping promote Healthy Active Kids at FWES, please join our team by contacting Don Eller at deller@wcpss.net.



International Walk to School

Magnet Musings

from the desk of Anna Goodrum, IB Coordinator



Early Release inspires creativity through inquiry!

We are fortunate as a school to have early release collaboration days where specialists and classroom teachers plan a morning of engagement focused on creativity, collaboration, critical thinking and communication. Friday, Sept 29th was our first Early Release day for this school year.

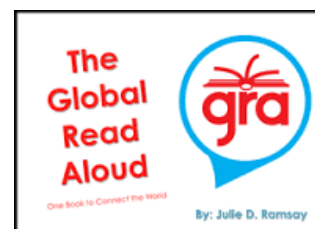
The Specialist team collaborated with Fourth Grade teachers to present a morning of learning activities relating to their IB unit: *How The World Works*. Students had the op-

portunity use inquiry as they created scribblers with a motor, made their own Stop Motion video sharing their knowledge of magnets, and explored force and motion with physical education games.

The next early release grade level collaboration will be with Second Grade on October 20th and we need your help! We are trying to stock our makerspace for the creation Please send in the [following recycled items](#) so that we can bring student design to life!

Global Read Aloud Begins Oct. 2

We are excited to participate with schools across the Globe in a joint Read Aloud project. K-1 students will be doing an author study with Mem Fox texts; 2-3 students will be reading Fenway and Hattie (Coe) and 4-5 students will read *The Wild Robot* (Brown). Throughout the project, classrooms at FWES will be working to connect with other classrooms to discuss what they are reading and the global themes.



More Inspiring Learning at FWES...

Music Room: 5th Grade Ringers and Singers has begun! We are looking forward to our first performance at the Family Evening Concert on Friday, December 8. We will also perform Thursday, January 25, and Thursday, May 17.

4th graders have been learning about composers Dvorak and Beethoven in preparation for their trip to the NC Symphony in April. Ask your 4th grader if they can tell you, or show you on a map, where Dvorak is from, or what Beethoven's music was like and what struggle he faced in his life while still composing famous pieces we still listen to! More composers to come. Information on ordering a soprano recorder will be coming home soon.

Students in grades K-3 have been learning to follow listening maps, use bass bars, xylophones and rhythm instruments, and have been exploring composers and songs from various parts of the world including Latin America, Australia and France.

Visual Art:

•Disability History and Awareness Month (DHAM) is during the month of October for Wake County Public Schools. The Arts will be participating in activities to support awareness.

•Students are encouraged to create an original composition for the PTA Reflections program. The theme this year is "Within Reach?" Submissions from home are due to Mrs. Smith by Nov. 1st, 2017 with an accompanying

entry form. See the PTA website for more details.

<http://ncpta.org/index.php/programs/reflections-arts-program/>

•Be sure to visit the North Carolina State Fair. Six of our students will have artwork featured in the Kerr Scott Building.

•Create artwork for the 2017-18 North Carolina Farm to School Calendar, which features facts about agriculture in our state. Artwork should feature **North Carolina Agriculture** Due November 1, 2017 See the contest rules for more information:

<http://www.ncfarmtoschool.com/htm/downloads/artcalrules.htm>

•Cary Library Art Exhibit: Bring in your best artwork to Mrs. Smith to represent FWES! DUE: December 1, 2017

A Page from the Inquiry Center ... Mrs. Grice

Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge Update Congratulations to Noah H. and Jack M. who were the winners of the Kindle Fire e-readers from our summer reading challenge. About 100 students read and recorded over 2000 minutes during the summer. An additional 50 students read and recorded 1500 minutes. All of the those students recording a minimum of 1500 minutes received a special summer bear charm. We are still waiting on the final totals from Scholastic, but at last check FWES was among the top 10 schools in the state of NC !!

Read Around the World This year we will again participate in a year long reading incentive program designed to motivate and reward students for reading a variety of books. Read Around the World is designed for two purposes; to encourage the students to use the library catalog to find different kinds of books and to encourage students to read a variety of books. Students will be given their first Read Around the World continent reading log: Africa, in early October. Each time the student reads a book in one of the categories on the reading log, he/she writes down the title of the book in that space. When the entire log is filled out, the log is signed by an adult and returned to the Inquiry Center. For each completed log the student returns, he/she will choose a charm and be given a new reading log for the next continent. As you read with and to your children, please encourage them to look for books that connect to their Read Around the World logs.



Readvolution Wake County Public Schools, in partnership with the Carolina Hurricanes, will be participating in a community-wide literacy campaign supporting daily reading outside of school. The goal of the campaign is to highlight the importance of reading in creating college and career ready graduates.

To help reach WCPSS's Vision 2020, our students will be given a challenge of 20 minutes of reading outside of the school day! For every book a student reads, they will write the title of the book on a paper puck to be added to our Hurricanes hockey goal banner. The goal is to collectively fill our banner with 2,020 pucks! This Readvolution will start in early October and end in January, 2018. MORE INFORMATION COMING SOON!!

Visiting authors coming to FWES

(Part 1) Quail Ridge Books and FWES PTA will be sponsoring a visit from Rob Buyea for our Fourth and Fifth grade students, on Thursday, October 5th. Mr. Buyea (pronounced "Boo yay") is the author of the Mr. Terupt series of books. We are excited about his visit and look forward to hearing about his newest book, The Perfect Score. To learn more about Mr. Buyea, please go to his website : <http://www.robbuyea.com>.

(Part 2) In the Spring, 2018, FWES PTA will be sponsoring a whole school visit with the acclaimed author/illustrator Brian Pinkney. To learn more about Mr. Pinkney visit his website <http://brianpinkney.net/main.html>

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Magnet Elementary PTA

<http://farmingtonwoodspta.org>

⇒ **Global Fun Run:** The Farmington Woods Elementary School PTA is planning our second annual **Global Fun Run** on **Thursday, November 2nd**, with a kickoff Pep Rally, on **Monday, October 23rd**. This is our major fundraiser for the school year!

This year's goal is to raise \$20,000 for PTA-sponsored activities and programs at Farmington Woods:

- Cultural arts program such as music, dance, and theatre presentations
- Technology subscriptions such as Scholastic News and Raz-Kids
- Teacher Mini grants for programs, equipment and new materials
- Teacher and staff appreciation events
- All money raised above the goal will be used to help renovate the small playground

Please be watching in your child's Monday folder for information to be coming home, on how to support FWES, and some of the great prizes we have in store!



Si necesita servicios de traducción gratuitos para comprender los procesos escolares, llame al (919) 852-3303

إذا كنت بحاجة إلى خدمات الترجمة المجانية للتعرف على سير العمليات بالمدرسة، اتصل بالرقم (919) 852-3303

Si vous avez besoin de services de traduction gratuits pour comprendre les procédures scolaires, appelez le (919) 852-3303

यदि आपको विद्यालय की प्रक्रियाओं को समझने के लिए निःशुल्क अनुवाद सेवाएं चाहिए, तो (919) 852-3303 पर कॉल करें

학교/교육 과정에 관한 무료 번역 서비스가 필요하시면 다음 번호로 연락하여 주십시오 (919)852-3303

Nếu quý vị cần sự thông dịch miễn phí để hiểu phương pháp trường học, xin vui lòng gọi số điện thoại, 919-852-3303

如果您需要免费翻译服务来了解学校流程，请致电 (919) 852-3303

Farmington Woods IB/PYP Magnet Elementary PTA

<http://farmingtonwoodspta.org>

Next PTA Board Meeting- Friday, October 13
7:45am FWES Inquiry Center



I want to ask everyone to please join Memberhub to receive information on upcoming events. You do not have to be a PTA member to join Memberhub.

Join MemberHub: <https://fwespta.memberhub.com/join/yopxnk>

Join the PTA: <https://fwespta.memberhub.com/dues>



⇒ BoxTops October Collection Contest!

The Fall Box Top Contest will run Oct 9 - 27. Details will be coming in a Monday folder. Start looking for Box Tops on Annie's Mac & Cheese, Progresso Soups, Old El Paso Beans, Yoplait, and Hefty products. For a full list of participating products please go to

Don't Forget to Collect
BOX TOPS!



<http://www.boxtops4education.com/earn/participating-products>. Remember each one is worth ten cents!

⇒ Yearbook:

The PTA is responsible for creating our school yearbook each year. We have been creating our yearbooks digitally via Jostens for many years.



- ◆ Order your 17-18 yearbook now online at www.jostensyearbooks.com
- ◆ Share school related photos for the yearbook at www.replayit.com or use the ReplayIt! App for phone pics

⇒ PTA Advocacy:

- ◆ We attended the BAC meeting for District 9 on Monday the 18th. Board member Bill Fletcher updated us on the class size mandate coming into effect for the 2018-2019 school year and how it will impact certain schools. Farmington Woods is not one of the 27 schools that will need Board Action (yay). There is the potential of combo classes (2 K classes in one room with 2 teachers to make space and so on, possibly art/music and Spanish to go to a cart), but the goal is to make sure all students get a seat (this is for our school).
- ◆ The School Board sent out the first proposal for changes coming down the pipeline. They attached a link to check if your neighborhoods calendar options have changed (i.e gone away) and what your base is. They encourage the public to let Board Members know if this affects them and their children and how (if it does).
- ◆ Bill Fletcher suggested that when Congress reconvenes on Oct 4th it will not be to discuss any funding for public schools, so to hold off on any major actions. He said now is

the time to build relationships with our legislatures and board members. He said the May short session is the next time we can start really speaking up to ask for more funding. If parents have questions, they should be calling their school board member about what changes are coming next year.

- ◆ Bill Fletcher holds coffee chat hours for any parents that might want to meet to discuss anything further with him: 1st Thursday 1pm- Cary Chamber; 3rd Monday 11am Caribou Coffee (Maynard Rd.)

⇒ Reflections Art Contest:

- ◆ CALL FOR STUDENT ENTRIES Farmington Woods Elementary PTA is asking for kids to get creative! The Reflections themed art competition is underway, with the introduction to this year's contest theme, "Within Reach". Each year the program challenges students to create art inspired by the chosen theme and encourages students to explore their artistic talents. Students can pursue their creative expression of this year's theme in any of the six different arts categories: dance choreography, film production, literature, music composition, photography, visual arts (2D and 3D), and Special Artists.

- ◆ All students in pre-k through fifth grade are encouraged to participate. Students can create as many projects as they like, in as many arts categories as they like. Works will be divided into two divisions: kindergarten through second grade, and an intermediate division for third through fifth graders.

- ◆ Don't miss this great opportunity for your child to develop and explore his or her creativity! The submission deadline for all artwork is October 30. Download [official rules](#) and [entry forms](#) and get creating! Questions? Ask Mike @ emenmike@gmail.com.

⇒ PTA Outreach:

- ◆ The Outreach closet is in need of some clothing! We need Small girls underwear (new), Medium shorts (boys and girls), Medium girl pants, Medium underwear for girls and boys (new), Large pants (girls and boys). The pants and shorts can be used if in good condition, but underwear must be new. If you are able to contribute, please drop off donations to the front office.
- ◆ Contact Quaira Rhodes at rhodesquaira@gmail.com for additional information. Thank you!